

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended) A bathroom accessory comprising:

a mounting subassembly; and

a post;

wherein said mounting subassembly comprises a mounting bracket; ~~and~~

wherein said post is connected to said mounting subassembly by alignment of said post with said mounting subassembly and movement of said post along said mounting subassembly solely in an axial direction until an extended portion of a snap flange located on an outer surface of said mounting bracket snaps into a recess formed through said post, said extended portion of said snap flange being engageable from the exterior of said post to release the connection of said post to said mounting bracket;

wherein said mounting bracket includes an axially extending body portion;

wherein said snap flange is located on said axially extending body portion; and

wherein said snap flange includes a camming surface that engages an inner surface of said post to flex said snap flange.

18. (canceled).

19. (original) The bathroom accessory of claim 17, wherein said post includes a generally toroidal portion defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween, and said mounting bracket includes an axially extending body portion which is generally toroidal and is defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween; wherein said inner diameter of said post is slightly larger than the outer diameter of said axially extending body portion of said mounting bracket to form a friction fit between the post and the mounting bracket.

20. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory of claim 17, wherein said mounting bracket further comprises an axially extending body portion and one or more ribs located on said axially extending body portion.

21-30. (canceled).

31. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory of claim 17, further comprising a functional member connected to said post.

32. (currently amended) ~~The bathroom accessory of claim 31,~~ A bathroom accessory comprising:

a mounting subassembly;

a post; and

a functional member connected to said post;

wherein said mounting subassembly comprises a mounting bracket;

wherein said post is connected to said mounting subassembly by alignment of said post with said mounting subassembly and movement of said post along said mounting subassembly

solely in an axial direction until an extended portion of a snap flange located on an outer surface of said mounting bracket snaps into a recess formed through said post, said extended portion of said snap flange being engageable from the exterior of said post to release the connection of said post to said mounting bracket; and

wherein said functional member is a towel bar, a towel ring or a paper holder.

33. (currently amended) A bathroom accessory comprising:

a mounting subassembly; and

a post,

wherein said mounting subassembly comprises a mounting bracket;~~and~~

wherein said post is connected to said mounting subassembly by alignment of said post with said mounting subassembly and sliding movement of an inner surface of said post along an outer surface of said mounting subassembly solely in an axial direction until a portion of a snap flange located on said mounting bracket snaps into a recess formed through said post, said snap flange being engageable from the exterior of said post to release the connection of said post to said mounting bracket;

wherein said mounting bracket includes an axially extending body portion;

wherein said snap flange is located on said axially extending body portion; and

wherein said snap flange includes a camming surface that engages said inner surface of said post to flex said snap flange.

34. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory of claim 33, wherein said post includes a generally toroidal portion defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween, and said mounting bracket includes an axially extending body portion which is

generally toroidal and is defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween; wherein said inner diameter of said post is slightly larger than the outer diameter of said axially extending body portion of said mounting bracket to form a friction fit between the post and the mounting bracket.

35. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory of claim 33, wherein said mounting bracket further comprises an axially extending body portion and one or more ribs located on said axially extending body portion.

36. (canceled)

37. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory of claim 33, further comprising a functional member connected to said post.

38. (currently amended) ~~The bathroom accessory of claim 37,~~ A bathroom accessory comprising:
a mounting subassembly;
a post; and
a functional member connected to said post;
wherein said mounting subassembly comprises a mounting bracket;
wherein said post is connected to said mounting subassembly by alignment of said post
with said mounting subassembly and sliding movement of an inner surface of said post along an
outer surface of said mounting subassembly solely in an axial direction until a portion of a snap
flange located on said mounting bracket snaps into a recess formed through said post, said snap

flange being engageable from the exterior of said post to release the connection of said post to said mounting bracket; and

wherein said functional member is a towel bar, a towel ring or a paper holder.

39. (currently amended) A bathroom accessory mounting assembly comprising:

a mounting bracket which includes an axially extending body portion;

an accessory post that mounts on said axially extending body portion by sliding movement of an inner surface of said accessory post along an outer surface of said axially extending body portion;

wherein said mounting bracket includes a snap flange located on said axially extending body portion, said snap flange including a camming surface that engages said inner surface of said accessory post to flex said snap flange;

wherein said accessory post includes a recess extending therethrough for receiving a portion of said snap flange when said accessory post is properly positioned on said mounting bracket, receipt of said portion of said snap flange in said recess allowing said snap flange to unflex, thereby facilitating secure attachment of said accessory post to said mounting bracket;
and

wherein, to release secure attachment of said accessory post to said mounting bracket, said snap flange can be engaged from the exterior of said accessory post to flex said portion of said snap flange out of said recess; and

wherein said snap flange includes a main portion that is integral to said body portion, said main portion formed in a cutout region of said body portion such as to provide a u-shaped cutout in said body portion.

40. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory mounting assembly of claim 39, further comprising a flange that mounts on said axially extending body portion of said mounting bracket.

41. (currently amended) ~~The bathroom accessory mounting assembly of claim 40;~~ A bathroom accessory mounting assembly comprising:

a mounting bracket which includes an axially extending body portion;

an accessory post that mounts on said axially extending body portion by sliding movement of an inner surface of said accessory post along an outer surface of said axially extending body portion; and

a flange that mounts on said axially extending body portion of said mounting bracket, wherein said mounting bracket includes a snap flange located on said axially extending body portion, said snap flange including a camming surface that engages said inner surface of said accessory post to flex said snap flange;

wherein said accessory post includes a recess extending therethrough for receiving a portion of said snap flange when said accessory post is properly positioned on said mounting bracket, receipt of said portion of said snap flange in said recess allowing said snap flange to unflex, thereby facilitating secure attachment of said accessory post to said mounting bracket;

wherein, to release secure attachment of said accessory post to said mounting bracket, said snap flange can be engaged from the exterior of said accessory post to flex said portion of said snap flange out of said recess; and

wherein said mounting bracket further comprises a retaining flange located along a periphery of said body portion for securing said flange to said mounting bracket.

42. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory mounting assembly of claim 39, wherein said accessory post includes a generally toroidal portion defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween, wherein said axially extending body portion is generally toroidal and is defined by an inner diameter and an outer diameter and a thickness therebetween; wherein said inner diameter of said accessory post is slightly larger than the outer diameter of said axially extending body portion of said mounting bracket to form a friction fit between the accessory post and the mounting bracket.

43. (previously presented) The bathroom accessory mounting assembly of claim 39, wherein said mounting bracket further comprises one or more ribs located on said axially extending body portion.

44. (canceled)